

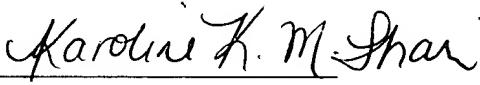
R E M A R K S

Applicants respectfully request entrance of the amendments as detailed above, in the divisional application filed herewith under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b). Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter is presented with these amendments. Rather, the original specification, as filed on January 13, 1998, has been provided for filing under 37 C.F.R. §1.53 (b), and Applicants respectfully submit that this preliminary amendment is requested to reflect cancellation of non-elected claims, and to correct formal matters in the specification (e.g., addition of a statement of divisional application status (with incorporation by reference), addition of a statement regarding government support, and ensuring consistency between the specification and formal drawings). Applicants have provided replacement pages 14-16 reflecting the amendments made, as described in more detail above, and additionally have provided a replacement paragraph for the paragraph found on page 1, lines 6-12.

As detailed above, Applicants have requested cancellation of claims 74-82 and 100, and respectfully request examination of claims 1-73, 83-99 and 101-107 on the merits. Applicants explicitly reserve the right, however, to present additional claims directed to subject matter in cancelled claims 74-82 and 100, which subject matter is additionally found throughout the specification, in future continuation or divisional applications.

Applicants would like to thank the Examiner in advance for review of this request. If it is believed that a telephone conversation would expedite matters, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (617) 248-5216. Although it is believed that there is no fee associated with this amendment, if Applicants are mistaken, please charge any fees to our Deposit Account No.: 03-1721.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Date: April 12, 2001